



To: Chief School Administrators
College and University Presidents
District Contacts
Employer Secure Area Contacts

Administrative Bulletin

Issue No. 2017-11

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History of the Employer Contribution Rate (ECR)

Estimated Range for the Next Employer Contribution Rate

Administrative Bulletin 2017-9, issued August 2017, informed you that the Retirement Board adopted an Employer Contribution Rate (ECR) of 9.80% of payroll. This ECR is applicable to fiscal year 2017-18 NYSTRS member salaries and will be collected in September, October and November 2018.

Based on preliminary results from the June 30, 2017 actuarial valuation, we anticipate the ECR for the next year to be between 10.50% and 11.00% of member payroll. This ECR will apply to fiscal year 2018-19 NYSTRS member salaries and will be collected in the fall of 2019. An Administrative Bulletin will be provided in February 2018 with a more precise estimate of this ECR.

The System is lowering its rate of return assumption from 7.50% to 7.25% with this valuation. Actuarial assumptions are revised in order to align them with experience and expectations. Lowering the assumed rate of return implies a decrease in expected future investment returns and therefore an increase in the required employer contribution. The ECR range provided above is with the new assumption taken into account.

Although returns have generally been favorable over the last several years, the expectation is that they will be more difficult to achieve going forward. While this ECR will represent an increase over the prior year it follows three years of ECR decreases.

If you have any additional questions, please call John Cardillo, Manager of Public Information, at (518) 447-4743.

Table with 2 columns: Salary Year and ECR. Rows range from 1980-81 to 2017-18.

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